



Grade 8

Expository

Writing

Exemplars

# TABLE OF CONTENTS:

<b>Introductory Letter .....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Provincial Reporting Template .....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Student-Friendly Rubric .....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Reproducible Comment Page .....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Exemplars.....</b>	<b>7-48</b>
<b>Appendices.....</b>	<b>49</b>



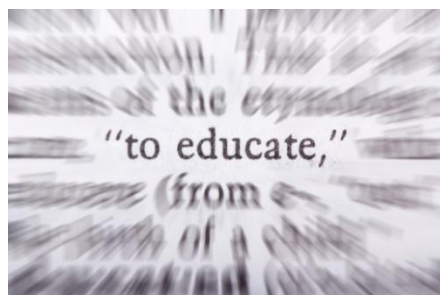
November, 2009

Dear Colleagues,

This resource is intended for use by Grade 8 ELA teachers in the Portage la Prairie School Division. During the 2008-09 school year, a need for a document highlighting indigenous writing exemplars demonstrating levels of quality was identified. Grade group sessions were organized and they focussed on teaching and assessment practices with regard to the *Middle Years Assessment of Grade 8 English Language Arts Reading Comprehension and Expository Writing*. Writing samples were collected from all schools in the division and cooperatively assessed by the grade 8 ELA teachers in an effort to provide consistency and understanding of the expectations across the division.

This document was compiled in binder format so additional samples can be added by individual teachers and comment pages have been included so the teachers may make notes about the specific exemplars. The comment pages may be numbered with the page number of the sample with an 'a' beside it to help keep organized. Each sample has been digitized in order to share with students using interactive whiteboard technologies. The writing exemplars are assessed in the order the competencies are listed on the provincial reporting form. In addition, the provincial rubric can be found on page 4 and a sample of a student –friendly rubric has been included: feel free to revise it as needed. Finally, appendices have been added highlighting a list of several writing resources with room to include further entries, and a graphic organizer outlining writing instruction that makes sense.

Good Luck!



# Provincial Reporting Template

English Program  
January 20\_\_\_\_

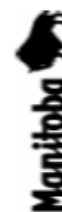
Provincial Report on Student Performance  
Grade 8  
Expository Writing

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ Individual Education Plan (IEP)

In accordance with Manitoba Education, Citizenship and Youth policy, the purpose of this assessment is to inform parents/guardians of their child's level of achievement compared to mid-grade provincial criteria in Expository Writing.

This report is not based on a single test, but on evidence of your child's achievement over the first several months of the school year as part of the normal teaching and learning process. Documents relating to this assessment are available online at: <[www.edu.gov.mb.ca/k12/assessment/inyreporting.html](http://www.edu.gov.mb.ca/k12/assessment/inyreporting.html)>.

Competency	Levels of Performance		
	Not Meeting Mid-Grade 8 Level of Performance	Approaching Mid-Grade 8 Level of Performance	Meeting Mid-Grade 8 Level of Performance
Student writes expository texts for a variety of audiences and purposes (to inform, describe, explain, persuade, state an opinion, etc.).	<input type="checkbox"/> Ideas are undeveloped or off topic; no overall organization (opening, body, conclusion) is employed.	<input type="checkbox"/> Ideas are adequate and on topic; overall organization is evident; inconsistent organization of supporting details.	<input type="checkbox"/> Ideas are on topic and well developed; organization of details supports the reader's understanding.
Student generates, selects, and organizes ideas to support the reader's understanding.	<input type="checkbox"/> Word choices and sentence patterns result in little or no impact on the reader.	<input type="checkbox"/> Word choices and sentence patterns have some impact on the reader.	<input type="checkbox"/> Word choices and sentence patterns have a definite impact on the reader.
Student chooses language (word choices and sentence patterns) to make an impact on the reader.	<input type="checkbox"/> Frequent spelling and grammatical errors detract from the understanding of texts.	<input type="checkbox"/> Errors in use of conventions detract from overall impression, but the meaning is evident.	<input type="checkbox"/> Conventions are applied consistently; errors may exist but do not affect meaning or overall impact.
Student uses conventions (spelling, grammar, and/or punctuation) and resources (spell-checker, thesaurus, dictionaries, etc.) to edit and proofread to make meaning clear.			
Comments (optional)	Student Reflections and Goals (optional)		
Teacher Signature: _____			





## Student-Friendly Rubric: Writing to Give Information

Criteria/Skill	Where Am I?		
	I'm there!	I'm Getting There!	I'm Not There Yet?
I can write information pieces of writing for different types of audiences and reason (to describe, explain, persuade, give an opinion)			
<b>I can create, choose, and organize ideas to help the reader understand what I am saying in my piece of writing.</b>	My ideas are on topic and well built; the organization of my details supports the reader's understanding of my essay.	My ideas are OK and on topic; my overall organization is obvious; but I did not organize my supporting details well enough.	My ideas are weak and/or off topic; my organization needs plenty of work (I need to put an opening, a body, and a conclusion into my essay)
<b>I choose language (word choices and sentence patterns) to make an impact on the reader.</b>	My word choices and sentence patterns have a definite impact on the reader. They make the reader want to keep reading!	My word choices and sentence patterns are OK, but I could make them more smooth and descriptive.	My word choices and sentences patterns really need help! I should get out a thesaurus and find some descriptive words, and talk to my teacher, parents, and friends about how to make my sentences smooth!
<b>I use conventions (spelling, grammar, and/or punctuation) and resources (spell-checker, thesauruses, dictionaries) to edit and proofread to make my meaning clear.</b>	My spelling, grammar, and punctuation are awesome! I may have made some mistakes, but the reader still understands the message of my writing.	My Bad! My spelling, grammar, and punctuation mistakes make it sort of difficult for the reader to read my essay, but they still understand the message.	EEK! I made way too many spelling, grammar and punctuation errors. The reader does not understand the meaning of my essay.

How Am I Going to Get There? Or Beyond!

- 
- 
-

## Comments:

Title of exemplar:

What is done well?

What needs improvement?

Next steps?

Not Meeting

Not Meeting

Not Meeting



### 3 Wishes for a better World

This is 3 wishes i have for a better world  
No Guns, no Global warming, no wars All of  
These Things can Kill living things and  
also in the future they will still take  
lives but probaly more lives unless we  
do something about it like guns and  
wars they are threatening and global  
warming right now it is just killing  
polar Bears but soon it will start to kill  
us. and people seem that wars are just to  
see who is stronger and what territory is  
there's but if people didn't do anything like  
that then the world would be a  
better place probaly but!! it would  
be imposibul that people would just share  
because they work nice and hard  
for All the stuff they got. I don't like  
alot of stuff in the world but  
this is only a porshon of what i don't  
like in the world.

## If i had 3 wishes

There are allot of problems in the worlds but if I only had 3

My first wish. To stop global warming that everyone did their part to stop global warming so the ice doesn't melt and flood the cities.

My second wish would be that every country respected each other's religion

So that there would be no war and so there would be peace among the countries

My final wish that there would be enough food for everyone so they could get food and not get sick go to school and could get a job.

There are allot of problems in the world but if I had 3 those would be mine.



I want a world with no war, terrorism, racism and violence etc, I just want peace for a better world.

~~I have~~ I had 3 wishes they would be for  
~~the~~ world hunger because every should be  
 able to eat. people wouldn't be sick. I think  
 they would live longer and happier and  
 also be healthier.

My second wish is for no racism because  
 we are all ~~human~~ equal and not much different. I think  
 there would be more peace in the world with  
 no racism. There would be no more wars and  
 every one would be treated equally.

~~My third wish is for world peace~~  
 my third wish is for world peace because  
 we should all be able to get along and live  
 in this world as one. I think if there was world  
 peace there would be no more wars. People would  
 be living better lives than what they are  
 today as I write this. The people could also  
 live without being scared.

Not Meeting

Not Meeting

Approaching



3 wishes <sup>Good</sup>  
<sup>Copy</sup>



If I got 3 wishes  
To change the world  
I would wish for these  
3 Things.

Wish one: I would wish  
That everyone cared when  
Something would happen to  
anybody.

Wish two: I would wish that  
everyone would have a roof  
over there head

Wish three: For my Thurd wish I  
would wish that there are no more  
terriests and Wars going on like  
bloods, Crips and the KKK.



Approaching

Not Meeting

Not Meeting



Don't you wish that all the bad things went away. like starving kid and adults in africa and Global warming and also wars. here are my three wishes for the world.

No war so no one dies over someone's Greed. Kids go to war and die because one man's greed. Family's lose their dad/husband because of war. They lose millions of dollars to prepare. Suffering people got shot. people cry because they have to leave for war.

No Global warming so no floods. Animals don't die, people don't die, people's houses getting flooded and people died in their houses. people live somewhere else and leave their wrecked houses. people go homeless over the flood.

And the last wish is about hunger

So people won't starve to death. Not grow because of not enough Nutrition so people don't die of hunger and help their family stay alive. So people don't have that horrible feeling in their stomachs. The adults don't have to not feed their kids and their selfs. The kids parents die and they have to feed them self

## Wishes to change the world

Introduction: if I can change the world I would get 3 wishes it could be stop all wars and to stop fame and stop gangs it would change the world.

My first important wish is to stop all the wars because lots of people get hurt or die because of all the guns that kill them and all of the bombs and one won of these days their well be no more people in the world if this happens they world will be happy and there well be peace.

My second important wish is to stop all famine because everyone little kid out their are dying of starving and most of them are really skinny and most of the little kids don't have anything and every year 30,000 kids die of starvation that sucks if these happens the world will be happy and they will be too.

My third important wish is to stop a gangs and recession because all the gang members live in deadly cities and if you walk around there they will kill you and most of the kids around there get beat up for nothing and they were different kind of clothes around there you get beat up and recession if you are a different kind of skin they would make fun of you and try and do something to you or kill you and collared people are just like other people and if these happen everyone well be happy and kids well feel safe.

All I wished for I hope it come true and if it does I would be happy and all I hope for everyone to be happy and the world to peace it sucks when there is killing in the world and little kids dying from starving and I wish for everyone to have fun and everyone is the same.

*wishes to Change the World*

- 2 -

# Approaching

# Approaching

# Approaching





## M Y W I S H E S

If I had three wishes for the world, I would wish to have education and nutrition for all people. I would also wish for world peace. Because they are important to the quality of life.

We need education so we can take our drivers license, count, and think faster in our heads. I have a pretty good education and I am happy. Education is very helpful and whoever has good education should be very happy. I wish the poor people had everything we have, then the world would have peace too. People could help each other out and be kind to each other.

We need nutrition so we don't die of hunger. I wish the poor people had some food to eat like us. It is not fair but we try to help them out. It is embarrassing if you think about them. Imagine if we had no food that would be terrible. We should try to get some food for them. They don't have any money. The government and the rich people should give them a little. Because some of the rich people misuse it and buy things that they don't need. The rich people could build houses in the poor countries. The poor people don't have any good houses; they are only made out of straw and grass. They have to run for miles away. We should try to help them a lot more because they are very poor. Let's all try to help each other and get along with each other.

We need safety because if you don't have safety we would probably die. If you go near a PTO you get sucked in. We for sure need safety. Some people don't watch their children enough. They run around till 2:00 in the morning, and just make trouble. So please watch your children.

These are some of the things I am wishing to see some day. We should all try and get along and watch our steps. Because you never know what could happen, so everybody try harder and be good buddies with each other.

2  
my Wishes.

# Meeting

# Approaching

# Approaching





Sometimes it seems like our world is perfect; but then you turn on the T.V. or radio and hear about another soldier killed or how horrible global warming is. The world isn't flawless but if we can make small substitutions things can change. My three wishes for a better world are: for poverty to end, there to be no more pollution and for everyone to be treated equally.

Poverty. One word says so much, famine poor housing.... If there was no poverty in our world what would it be like? No one would be starving, everyone would be able to get proper medicine if they were sick. Families would have decent housing to protect them. If everyone did something for people that are living in poverty what would our world be like?

Equality. There is so much violence and war because of religion whether you are African-American, black or white. If we all could get along would there be wars? "We could all learn a lot from crayons. Some are bright colours and some are dull but they all have to learn to live in the same box." (Chicken Soup Stories for a Better World). I wonder what our world would be like if everyone listened to that?

Pollution. Whether it is litter or just exhaust from cars and trucks it is all pollution. When waste from big factories is dumped into rivers and lakes it will be hurting everything living in them and spread into the ocean poisoning everything in there. Any seafood that we eat comes from our

seas and oceans so if they are polluted then what will happen to our seafood and amazing ocean animals? Think about all of the cars trucks and vans running every day. A lot of car companies are creating new models that use less gas or none at all. If everyone picked up their litter and used a little less gas then just maybe our world would be greener.

There are so many things that we need to change in our world. I wonder... what would the Earth be like if there was no poverty, no pollution and everyone was treated equally?

# Approaching

# Approaching

# Meeting



### If I Could Change the World

If I could change the world I would make sure all people have clean water, proper food, peace, freedom and safety. Children should be able to go to school and get educated. Every child should be able to go to school, including all girls, who have to work and do other things. That's what I wish for, to make the world a better place.

All humans should have clean water and proper food to eat. They should have a healthy nutritious diet. If kids and adults don't have proper food and clean water they wouldn't be able to digest, grow or learn. Some people have to walk miles and miles to get clean and sometimes dirty water. Everyone should have a pump or tap right at home. Usually the girls have to go for water and it's not safe or fair. Other people in other tribes could hurt or kidnap them. Girls shouldn't have to do all the work, all people should be treated the same.

Nobody should suffer from lack of food or water because there is enough in the world for everyone to have and share.

I would change the world by having peace and freedom. Everyone should live in peace with freedom. Everyone should have peace because they shouldn't always fight and have war. They should all just get along and leave people be. All people should be able to believe what they want. Greedy rich people should think of other people and families who don't have any money, homes or food. When they build their houses, they should make smaller houses and give the money



to the poor, instead of making big houses. They don't need big houses when only a few people live in them.

I wish that all children in the world could go to school. I wish that all parents would have enough money to get their children educated. If they don't have school, they grow up and don't have anything to teach their children. I also wish that all girls in all countries would be able, or have the right to go to school. When the girls grow up they don't know how to read or write, and they won't reach their potential.

I think all those things would make the world a better place, because there would be no fighting, no war, everyone would get along, and there would be peace and freedom everywhere. Everyone would have proper food to eat and proper water to drink. All kids would be able to go to school and be educated properly in proper schools and proper buildings, not on sand or on the ground or dirt. I wish for those things to happen. It would make the world a better place.

*If I Could Change the World.*  
*-2-*

### I Wish...

**There are a lot of problems in the world that need to be taken care of. Some which will probably never be fixed. If we try to help with these problems, the world would be a better place.**

**For my first wish, I wish there is world peace. There would be no war and fighting. You could go anywhere without getting hurt. We would be able to get things that we need from any country. The countries would have money to buy important things for the country like hospitals.**

**For my second wish, I wish that there is enough food for everyone. No one would die from hunger or get sick from not having the right kind of food to eat like fruit. Everyone that has food and water shouldn't waste very much. Then, the other countries would be able to have some food. If this happened, then the world would probably get over populated.**

**For my last wish, I wish that everyone could have a job. Everyone would be able to make money and buy food and water and shelter. They would be able to live a good life. You would have somewhere warm to go in the winter and when it's storming outside. We wouldn't see people out on**

- 1 -

**the streets and feel sorry for them. If everyone had a job, maybe no one would care about what they were getting.**

**Those are the three biggest problems I think we need to fix. If we could fix those problems, I think we could be able to fix almost every problem. They would help the world the most. It would save a lot of people from dying.**

*I Wish...*

*-2-*



## Wishes For a Better World

May 14<sup>th</sup>

Nowadays, the world is in many ways damaged. With pollution, crime, discrimination and overall hate, our society is in dire need for a change. Today I'm going to express three of my wishes for a better world.

For me, I think our world on a social level needs to change drastically. It seems to be that anyone who passes by on the street you make assumptions right away about what that person's like. This is stereotyping, I decided to talk about stereotyping because it's not an obvious issue but in reality it's an issue that can truly hurt people. You shouldn't judge people based on their appearances, because although it's a bit



cheesy, what's on the inside is truly what defines a person. Labelling is also amongst the problems in today's youth. A person should just be known as themselves, not for being a 'geek', or a 'drama queen'. If we learn to get to know someone instead of assuming what they're like, we can fix this problem.

But there are more issues in this world.

Believe it or not, there are still many people in this world who are ignorant towards

race. They believe that African-American

2 "Wishes for a Better World"

people are only good for theft, using guns, living in 'the hood' and that all black people are 'good 'singers' and use language like "gangsta" and "go", etc. These are all stereotypes that need to be stopped. Although it's stereotyping, it is also racism.

People need to begin to realize that judging people based on their appearance, the way they talk, their financial situation, where they live and many other aspects of someone's life is unacceptable and overall wrong. This world needs to change; and it's about time we put our wishes into reality.

3 "Wishes for a Better World"



# Approaching

# Meeting

# Approaching



## Wishes for a Better World.

My three wishes to change the world are no more war, end famine, and stop greed. I'm sure there are some more important subjects people would have chosen, but these jumped out at me.

Let's try and end wars, we'd have a WAY better world without wars, world wars, and gang wars. World wars hurt innocent people, bombs they use cause disease, show youth its alright to fight like they are, they're promoting violence, instead of showing it can be solved in a civil manner. Gang wars also hurt innocent people, and also promote violence, but it puts drugs on the streets, without gangs there wouldn't be gang wars, and without gangs there wouldn't be gang wars, and without gangs there wouldn't be so many drugs. It's a new time, violence is taking over, some people blame war, and others blame the way they were raised, I blame both. Parents should educate their children on violence, and there shouldn't be any talk about war.

I wish we could put an end to famine a fancy word for hunger. How would you feel going to bed hungry for a week or not eat for three days? This wouldn't be normal behavior for us, and would drive us crazy. Well people go through that everyday around the world, 3 times worse then that. So while others are worrying about where they're going to eat that day, or die that night. It's harsh but its true, we can't sit around and pretend it doesn't happen anymore. If everybody in the world gave up ONE box of Kraft Dinner we would be able to feed millions. Food banks aren't asking for money, or time, just one can of soup, or tin of salmon. The day the World Trade Centers were bombed 30,000 children died from famine, how come we didn't cry for them? I'm not saying it wasn't tragic, but 3000 people died in the Trade Centers, most that have lived

their lives, 30,000 children aren't going to get a chance, and every second, a child loses out on a chance from hunger, because they didn't get food. It's not something you can end in a day, but if we TRIED, we could end it, if we cared.

Our society faces a problem with greed. People around the world suffer, because we're greedy, like starve, or can't afford to protect their country. Canada has to have about 100 times more money than the poor part of the world. We need to help our other countries that are hurting, because the people in them are getting hit the hardest. So you see we worry too much about what we have, then what others don't.

The world is slowly fading, and we could save it. I don't want to be the generation that killed the world because I didn't care. It's not that hard to donate, or plant a flower, or give some time and effort. I used to never care about anything, but now, a girl who is just like me could die from war, or famine, or greed. So when you go to turn away stare for ten more seconds, and put you and your loved ones in the position, because I'd hate to be there. Our world is in the hands of my generation, and I refuse to crumple it up, and throw it away.

*Wishes for a better world.*

*- 2 -*

# Meeting

# Approaching

# Meeting



### THREE WISHES FOR A BETTER WORLD

IF I COULD GRANT THE WORLD THREE WISHES I WOULD WISH FOR WORLD PEACE, LESS PREJUDICE AGAINST GIRLS, AND FOR CLEAN WATER AND GOOD FOOD FOR EVERYONE. I WISH FOR THESE THINGS BECAUSE THEY WOULD REALLY MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN PEOPLE'S LIVES.

MY FIRST WISH IS FOR WORLD PEACE BECAUSE WAR DOES NO GOOD. IT ONLY LEADS TO MORE AND MORE FIGHTING. MEN, WOMEN, CHILDREN HAVE TO LEAVE THEIR HOME BECAUSE THE WAR REACHES THEIR HOME AND TEARS IT APART. THEY HAVE TO UP AND LEAVE AND SET UP NEW HOMES AND JUST HOPE THE WAR WON'T REACH THEM AGAIN. ALSO, SOLDIERS HAVE TO LEAVE THEIR HOMES AND FAMILIES TO FIGHT. SOMETIMES THEY NEVER SEE THEM AGAIN, ALL BECAUSE MAN CAN'T GET ALONG. ANOTHER THING IS THE MONEY SPENT ON WAR. IT'S NOTHING BUT A WASTE OF MONEY. THE MONEY COULD BE PUT TOWARDS BUILDING UP THE COUNTRIES THAT HAVE BEEN TORN APART BY WAR. THE MONEY COULD BE SPENT ON FOOD, CLOTHES, AND HOUSES AND TO SEND CHILDREN TO SCHOOL. IF THE CHILDREN COULD ALL GO TO SCHOOL, THEY WOULD LEARN THINGS LIKE READING, WRITING AND GETTING ALONG, THINGS THAT THEY COULD ACTUALLY USE IN LIFE. IF THEY WENT TO SCHOOL THEY WOULD HAVE LESS TIME TO GET INVOLVED IN THINGS LIKE GANGS, CRIME AND DRUGS. THERE WOULD ALSO BE LESS CHILD SOLDIERS. SO, IF MORE TIME AND MONEY WAS SPENT ON THESE WORTHWHILE THINGS EVERYBODY WOULD BE ALL THE HAPPIER BECAUSE OF IT.

SECONDLY, I WOULD WISH FOR LESS PREJUDICE AGAINST GIRLS. GIRLS SHOULD HAVE THE SAME OPPORTUNITIES AS BOYS. SOME GIRLS AREN'T ALLOWED TO GO TO SCHOOL BECAUSE THEY HAVE TO STAY HOME AND WORK AND THEY THINK BOYS ARE SMARTER. IF THE GIRLS CAN'T GO TO SCHOOL THEY WILL NEVER HAVE THE NECESSARY SKILLS TO BE INDEPENDENT, SHOULD THEY EVER NEED TO BE. SOME GIRLS HAVE TO BE COVERED FROM HEAD TO TOE ALL THE TIME BECAUSE THEY BELIEVE THEIR WHOLE BODY SHOULD BE COVERED. THEY PROBABLY DON'T EVEN KNOW WHAT FRESH AIR FEELS LIKE. THE WOMEN AND GIRLS AREN'T ALLOWED TO WALK ALONE



OUTSIDE OF THEIR HOME WITHOUT A MALE ESCORT. GIRLS DON'T HAVE THE SAME RIGHTS AS BOYS DO. JUST BECAUSE THEY'RE GIRLS DOESN'T MAKE THEM ANY LESS HUMAN.

MY THIRD WISH WOULD BE FOR CLEAN WATER AND GOOD FOOD FOR EVERYBODY BECAUSE SOME PEOPLE AND HAVE TO DRINK DIRTY WATER THAT GIVES THEM DISEASES LIKE DIARRHEA, E-COLI AND PARASITES. THOSE ARE DISEASES THAT THEY CAN DIE FROM AND WE CAN GET VACCINATIONS AND MEDICINE TO TREAT THEM. THEY AREN'T EVEN LIFE-THREATENING HERE. EVERYBODY SHOULD ALSO HAVE PROPER FOOD SO THEY CAN GROW AND DEVELOP PROPERLY. THERE IS CERTAINLY ENOUGH FOOD IN THE WORLD TO FEED EVERYBODY. NOW IF ONLY THE FOOD AND WATER WAS DISTRIBUTED EQUALLY EVERYBODY COULD EAT AND DRINK EVERY DAY.

THESE ARE MY THREE WISHES FOR A BETTER WORLD. I WISH FOR THESE THINGS BECAUSE I BELIEVE THEY WOULD MAKE THE WORLD A BETTER PLACE. IF THESE THREE WISHES COULD BE GRANTED PEOPLE ON EARTH WOULD BE HAPPIER AND IT WOULD BE NICE TO OPEN THE NEWSPAPER AND NOT SEE OR READ STORIES ABOUT WAR TORN COUNTRIES, STARVING PEOPLE, KILLING OR DISCRIMINATION AGAINST FEMALES. WE WOULD HAVE A BETTER WORLD WITHOUT THOSE THINGS AND WE WOULD ALSO HAVE BETTER CITIZENS.

Three Wishes for a Better World.



# Meeting

# Meeting

# Approaching



### 3 Wishes

What would you do if you could change the world with just three wishes? Would you end world hunger? Would you get people out of poverty? Would you find the cure for cancer? Would make the world equal? Or would you make the economy better? This was first brought up in an E.L.A class and I thought "Wow this is going to be easy!" But really with just three wishes I had to pick three that would make the biggest difference and the ones that I saw were the most important to me and my life. As tough as it was I would wish for equality in all countries, I would wish for the cure for cancer, and I would wish for a better economy.

For me equality is one of the biggest issues today. I had thought that just because we were in Canada that most of the world had equal rights but that is not even close to what it actually is. In Africa girls should be in school, but they are probably fetching water half a mile away because they can't afford it or they can't find a school close enough that is not just for boys. In other parts of the world women are not treated the way they should be, they have to obey their husbands, they are still told that their place is in the home and that they can't get a job, and that they have no say in government and they aren't treated like citizens. So really if we could just fix all of these by saying, I wish that all sexes, races, and classes the world could be that much better.

My second wish would be to stop a disease that is the top killer in Canada. I would wish for a cure for cancer. I am absolutely passionate for finding a cure for cancer, it is a vicious disease that can kill you or put you in a hospital for months at a time. My grandpa was diagnosed with cancer before I was born and was getting chemo therapy when I was born. He doesn't have cancer anymore but is always wondering if it will ever come back. Some people are not as lucky and there is thousands of young people that suffer from all

kinds of cancer and I think finding the cure would be one of the world's biggest reliefs.

My final wish would be to make our economy better. Sure to some people this sounds lame, but think about it, it could make the biggest difference of all. If you were to lower taxes, people would possibly be able to move off the streets. If you could lower the price of gas, people would be able to pay taxes or to buy groceries. If you could raise the grain, it could take most of the farmers out of debt. The list could go on and on but you could just see how much better the quality of living can be if the economy was just a tad better.

In just three wishes I have proved that the world could be a better place. But my question is why anybody wouldn't do something about it. Why wouldn't they step up and say, "Hey wake up!" As far as I can see is as long as the rich are happy so is the government. Sure my wishes probably aren't what most wishes are but I think that they are the most important to me and they would make the biggest difference in this unequal, disease infested, over priced world.

3 Wishes  
- 2 -

# Meeting

# Meeting

# Meeting



## What If.....

We all know that the world is not a perfect place, and that it is impossible to make it one. If I had three wishes to make the world a better place, there would be many things I would want to do. Unfortunately I can only choose three things. I would end world hunger, prevent crime, and stop pollution in the environment.

I wish that we could stop crime completely. The world would be a more peaceful, and safe place. There would be no murders or theft, and there would be no need for law enforcement. I think we could accomplish this by having harsher punishment for crime, and rewarding the people who do not get involved in crime, making it more convenient to stay away from crime. It sounds outrageous and difficult, which it is, but I think that with commitment and persistence we could accomplish this goal.

Many people don't know this but, there is enough food to feed EVERYONE in the world. If food was distributed evenly and not hoarded by the wealthy countries, there would be enough food to end world hunger. There would be no more people dying because of starvation. We could end world hunger by distributing food evenly. Another idea would be to have the wealthy countries send food and seeds over to help the poor countries have food and start to grow their own. We could also set up field irrigation systems to help grow food in places affected by drought.

For my third wish, I would like to stop polluting the environment. Not only does pollution add to global warming, it affects plants and animals in their habitats. They are not used to the ever changing climate we subject them to. Believe it or not, pollution affects people too. There are allergies and diseases caused by pollution and only we can stop it. We've all heard this before but ride a bike more. If your commute is too far to bike then carpool with someone. You could also use green energy to power your home. Less pollution would make a better, greener world.



Overall I think these are all great ideas, and I think that with time and commitment, we change the world. In what ways I do not know, but one thing I do know is that everyone can make a difference.



Mtg  
Mtg  
Mtg

What If...  
2

## Wishes For a Better World

The world is falling apart at the seams as we know it. Countries are attacking each other, nature is being bulldozed and paved over, turning into towns and cities. Discrimination is dividing people from other people. These things are happening all the time. I wish for these things to be reversed. What about you?

My first wish is there to be no wars, just peace. Wars kill harmless people and divide families. I think wars are contemptible because thousands of people lose their lives fighting with guns. Wars are massacres. I think if there's a World War III, the world is going to end with all the nuclear bombs countries have. Without wars there won't be anybody being killed. Wars would also make the world better because all the world would be peaceful.

My second wish is I wish people would leave the world the way it is. When I say that I don't literally mean I wish for people to not do anything. I mean that I wish people wouldn't cut down thousands and thousands of acres of forest and pave it over and make it all into towns and cities. I wish that people wouldn't pollute everywhere too. There are animals perishing all the time because of pollution. It would be good if people left nature go solo because if people let nature go solo, global warming would delay if there was more tree growth. The world would be much better if people left nature alone.

My third and final wish is I wish there would be no more discrimination. Because of

discrimination people are left out with lots of things and not being approved because of the way the people are. The world would be better without that because then the world would be more peaceful. People are left out and overlooked everywhere. Years and years ago, America discriminated all black people by isolating them from all of the white people. Discrimination also ceases people from having suitable freedom. So, without discrimination, more people would be free.

These are my three wishes. Maybe if the world is falling apart at the seams, if we reverse what we're doing now, then maybe the world will sew itself together.

*Wishes for a better world.*

- 2 -

# Exceeding





## Praying for a Healthier Earth

What has this beautiful and vast world of ours come to? Stealing, brutality, inequality, murder, lies, poverty, famine, war and pollution have almost become a normal for us. A lot of the problems in this world have to do with a lack of communication and understanding. I know everybody makes mistakes, and no one is the same, but why can't we just get along? If everybody could just work together for a change... that would be amazing! Like John Lennon's song 'Imagine' goes: "some say I am a dreamer, but I am not the only one". If everyone could dream about a better earth, then we would all have something in common to work on. That's what I want to talk about in this essay, the wishes I have for a better Earth. My three main wishes that I feel would make the biggest changes are: end to discrimination; democratic government systems in all countries; a clean energy with no pollution. This will be one of my stands for a new and healthier Earth.

Racism and prejudgement are big parts of discrimination. Just because some people are a different skin colour, religion, or ethnicity does it mean we should isolate or destroy them? I certainly don't think so. Most wars are started due to racism, religion, and/or selfishness. That's a fact. So isn't it just better if we all spoke things over better and get more understanding so wars aren't started? I don't think most people want to give up their lives because your group doesn't



exactly like the other one. That's why I wish for an end to discrimination.

Democracy is a key component to successful societies. It is my second wish that all countries' government systems will become democratic ones. Firstly, if you take the best interests of everyone in your country (as a president or prime minister) then you could stop the fighting within your country. Secondly, (as a civilian) I want at least a vote for who makes our major decisions. Thirdly, it is pleasant to have a say of who is fraternal, astute, trustworthy, and respectful enough to be the representative of your country. That's why I wish for all countries to run on democratic systems.

Planet Earth is slowly being destroyed by us - its own inhabitants - humans. My third wish is that we will use clean energy for living, someday, and to stop polluting the only Earth we have. Global warming is a world-wide crisis, we have to change our ways now! Fossil fuels being burned for electricity, cars, heating, and so on are creating emissions that thicken the Earth's atmosphere and making the average temperature rise drastically. Things we do on a daily basis create a big, long, destructive circle for the Earth. That's why my third wish is for everyone to use clean energy and go "green". Little things like hydro, solar, and wind generated electricity can help change the amount of pollution we emit. Recycling and composting are more small things we could do to help the environment. In contrast,

2-Praying

I just wish that everyone will get on the page of going "green" and do all little things for a cleaner earth.

Our old ways have changed. Some good changes and others bad. To start, we wouldn't need weapons if everybody respected everybody. We wouldn't need money if everyone was equal and fair. We wouldn't need to steal if there wasn't poverty and gangs. Lastly, and most important, we wouldn't need earth if we weren't living. So lets not destroy the earth and each other. Stand up for what's right and give a helping hand to those in need. Our generation - I pray - will make major change and history for those yet to come. Amen.

Praying...  
-2-

## Helpful Resources

### Books:

Culham, R. (2005). *6+1 traits of writing: The complete guide for the primary grades*. New York: Scholastic.

Culham, R. (2005). *6+1 traits of writing: The complete grade 3 and up*. York: Scholastic.

Check out our wiki on [WikiSpaces.com](https://www.wikispaces.com):

Gr8readingandwriting